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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2, 2005

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**ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS SECRETARY STEPHEN PRITCHARD
DELIVERS \$498,450 GRANT TO SCITUATE TO SUPPORT TOWN PROJECT**

Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) Secretary Stephen R. Pritchard today visited Scituate to deliver an Urban Self-Help Grant of \$498,1000 that will assist in the enhancement of the town's waterfront recreational facilities.

While the total cost of the project is \$890,100, the town will contribute the balance. The park facilities being renovated and developed include:

- 14 boat slips added to the existing newly renovated 60 slip public marina, public gathering area with picnic tables and benches,
- adding a canoe and kayak launch site on adjacent conservation property
- construction of an ADA compliant coastal boardwalk and paths and related environmental education signage.

"Massachusetts is a smaller-sized state in terms of acreage, and we must be unwavering in protecting the limited natural resources we do have," Pritchard said. "These grants demonstrate that when communities are looking to the state for help in preserving recreational land, they'll find the needed support to match their commitment."

The Grant to Scituate is one of 27 Urban Self Help Grants announced earlier this year. In total \$9,544,085, encompassing FY 2006 and 2007, was awarded. Since 1977, these competitive Grants have been awarded to cities and towns to assist in acquiring and developing land for park and outdoor recreation purposes.

State Senator Robert Hedlund, whose legislative district includes Scituate, said, "I want to thank Secretary Pritchard for EOEA's support of this worthy project. I congratulate the many town officials and volunteers that helped make this grant a reality and for their commitment and efforts toward acquiring and renovating the Marina. These grants are competitive and Scituate should be proud of this success. This is a great project and I look forward to its completion."

Grants are available for the acquisition of land, and the construction, restoration, or rehabilitation of land for park and outdoor recreation purposes such as marinas, swimming pools, zoos, athletic play fields, playgrounds and game courts. Access by the general public is required.

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